(b) Due to its own operational commitments, Indian Air Force is providing limited air support to CPMFs which is not adequate to meet the requirement of CPMFs.

(c) and (d) As far as outsourcing of air courier service is concerned, it will be operated in J & K Sector *i.e.* between Jammu and Srinagar and in the North Eastern Sector *i.e.* between Imphal, Agartala, Silchar and Koikata. At these Airports, there is already a heavy traffic of commercial airlines in operation. As such, there is no security risk involved.

श्री धर्म पाल सभ्रवाल : सर, मंत्री जी ने जवाब दिया है कि अर्द्ध-सैनिक बलों को सीमावर्ती क्षेत्रों तक पहुंचाने के लिए एयर कैरियर सर्विस का इस्तेमाल करते हैं। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि ये किस कम्पनी की हैं या ये किस एयरलाइंस से संबंधित हैं? ऐसी कौन-कौन सी एयरलाइंस हैं जो यह काम करती हैं?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, at this stage, it is only a proposal. We hope to get the approval of the competent authorities and then go to an open tender process and an expression of interest will be issued to all airlines registered with the Director-General of Civil Aviation.

श्री धर्म पाल सभ्रवाल : सर, मैं आपके द्वारा मंत्री जी से यह अनुरोध करना चाहता हूं कि इस समय एयर इंडिया वित्तीय संकट में जा रही है, तो क्यों न यह काम एयर इंडिया से लिया जाए, क्या सरकार इस पर विचार करेगी।

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, the decision to go for an open tender process was taken after consulting Air India. In the open tender process, Air India will also bid and it is quite possible that Air India may win many of the bids in many of the areas.

Impact of global recession on Indian exports

*63. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any statistical data regarding reduction in exports due to global recession is available;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) how many export oriented industries have been compelled to close in these circumstances; and

(d) how many employees have lost their jobs?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Quick Estimates of monthly trade statistics compiled by DGCI&S indicate declining trend in India's merchandise exports during the last few months. While there are various contributory factors, recession, particularly in the developed countries, is a significant factor. Details of Quick Estimates of monthly merchandise exports from April, 2008 till May, 2009 (alongwith figures of corresponding month of the previous year) is given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) A sample survey conducted by Department of Commerce (during August, 08 till April, 09) for 648 exporting units as well as a survey conducted by Ministry of Labour and Employment has shown significant job losses.

Statement

Details of Quick Estimates of monthly merchandise exports from April, 2008 till May, 2009

(Figures in US $ Billion)

Month	2007-08*	2008-09**	Increase (+) / Decrease (-)
April	11.327	16.227	+ 43.3
May	12.456	16.062	+29.0
June	12.101	17.005	+40.5
July	12.513	17.318	+38.4
August	12.640	16.126	+27.6
September	12.521	14.298	+ 14.2
October	14.675	12.861	- 12.4
November	12.909	10.308	- 20.2
December	14.625	12.690	- 13.2
January, 09	14.889	12.381	-16.8
February	15.221	11.913	- 21.7
March	17.254	11.516	- 33.3
Month	2008-09	2009-10	Increase (+) / Decrease (-)
April	16.076	10.743	-33.2
May	15.550	11.010	-29.2

(SOURCE: DGCI&S)

* Revised Estimate

** Revised Quick Estimate

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Sir, we have adopted an export policy when the world market is shrinking. I would like to know from the Minister whether the Government is thinking of an alternative policy of development by giving due importance for domestic market expansion, by utilising the steps to increase the purchasing power of the common man and give more incentives to the domestic oriented industries.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Hon. Member's question is primarily about the impact of the global recession on India's exports and trade and also the resulting job losses. Sir, the global economic crisis, as I mentioned in the reply, has adversely impacted our exports which had witnessed a downward trend from October 2008 onwards and that decline continued in the months of April-May and the latest figures which we have got of June. This is primarily because of the fall in demand in the markets abroad, particularly the traditional destination of Indian exports in the developed countries which include the Americas, UK, Euro Zone, Japan, Singapore and other areas. There is a shrinking

of the developed economies and after the crisis, there is resultant is freeze in the international credit which led to a difficult situation both for the industry as well as for the exporters. But the downward trend, hopefully, has been arrested. The figures of the last three months indicate that there is now a turnaround which is visible primarily because of the various measures that the Government of India had taken, the stimulus packages which were there for the industry which included the interest subvention, easy availability of credit, service tax exemptions, more incentives have been announced in the Budget. Also, the Government had ensured that the labour intensive sectors are given relief. Now, the figures of April, May and June - the latest we received only yesterday of the month of June- now the decline has come down from 33 per cent to 29 per cent and we hope that the new measures which the Finance Minister announced day before yesterday in the Budget will have a positive impact. The Government has also ensured that the industry, particularly the stakeholders, the export councils are given the desired relief, both in the terms of duty concessions, duty drawbacks and as I mentioned about credit, interest subvention and cut in standard duty across-the board. We will be watching carefully over the developing situation. However, I may add here, Sir, that while we can do everything that is possible to make Indian exports globally competitive and give all incentives to our industry as well as to the exporters, the increase in exports finally will depend on the turn around in the developed economies, the major markets which are the destination of the Indian exports.

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Sir, mass suicides of workers is being reported throughout the country and there are also reports that some workers are being compelled to sell their kidneys for finding the means of living. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has any plans for a special package for giving immediate relief to the workers who have lost their jobs.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, this supplementary does not arise out of the main question for which the hon. Member has given notice. The question pertains to the impact on exports as well as the job losses.

However, Sir, it is true that the adverse impact has been felt in the labour-intensive sectors. That is why the Government had announced the stimulus packages, particularly measures to increase the domestic demand. And, to increase the domestic demand, emphasis has been laid on housing, infrastructure, increase in Government's spending, etc. This has led to a positive development on the lay-offs in the Indian industry. Various surveys were conducted between December and March, But, primarily, this is the domain of the Ministry of Labour and Employment. But, one report had indicated that in those three months, there was a loss of jobs to the extent of half-a-million. But, later, there has been an improvement and close to 2.5 lakh new jobs have been created. The overall loss which was continuing is getting arrested because of the increase in the domestic demand. When we look at the lay-off figures across the world, about 22 million job losses have been reported. It is highest in

the USA with 55 per cent lay-off, in China, it is 31 per cent and India, Sir, is very low on the ladder. It is because of the steps of the Government and increase in the domestic demand, particularly as I mentioned in housing and infrastructure, the capital goods industry has shown a positive turnaround. Cement and steel have registered a positive increase of 13 per cent in June. There is, again, a substantial increase in the automobile sector, which is creating jobs.

Sir, one area of concern for the Government has been gems and jeweller sector where the ancillary units have been affected. There are no major job losses in the export units. But, in the ancillary and supporting units, there have been job losses. We have talked to the stakeholders, Export Promotion Councils and we are taking measures. We are in constant touch with them to ensure what best can be done. However, Sir, the House will appreciate when there is a global economic crisis, the last thing in the mind of consumer is to add to their valuable jewellery and there has been reduction in spending in the developed countries which was the destination for Indian diamonds. But, at the same time, we are seeing what best can be done.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister has mentioned in his reply that from October, 2008-09 onwards until May, 2009-10, there is a considerable decline in the export earnings. That means, there is a considerable decline in the foreign exchange earnings. He has mentioned some of the measure that the Government is taking to meet the situation. But, here, I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister an important issue. Sir, on the one side import is very liberal and on the other our foreign exchange earnings are shrinking. When we import liberally, whatever steps you take will not have adequate effect. For example, in Kerala, we produce coconut and there is ample or huge coconut oil. But, Palm Oil is imported at zero duty. Even Keralites who are accustomed to use coconut oil have started using Palm Oil, because Palm Oil is cheaper as it is imported at Zero Duty. So, is it not necessary to restrict the liberal import in order to ensure that we retain our foreign exchange earnings? Is it also not necessary in view of the peculiar situation that you are facing?

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, the Government is vigilant when it comes to dumping and cheap imports and we are taking aill steps, wherever necessary.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: At the same time, I would like to inform the hon. Member that trade deficit has declined in the last few months. It has not increased. If there is a fall in exports, there is also decline in imports because production in other countries has also come down. Recently, there were two instances where we felt that certain measures were to be taken to curb cheap imports that were affecting the domestic industry, and that has been done. I would also like to add here that when there is a global crisis, then, India, being a country that is a growing economy, an emerging economy, is engaged globally with all the major countries and emerging economies. Our position has

been clear that we are against any protectionist barriers coming up, which many countries have shown tendency to go in for, which is impacting the flow of global commerce, including Indian exports to those countries. Therefore, as a matter of policy, the Government cannot have protectionist barriers. The hon. Member has also asked about the palm oil. There is impact on palm oil, as he is saying. But this is a very restricted impact. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No interruptions please.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Let me tell you, Sir, that when we are talking, we are talking of general impact on India's exports. There are hundreds of commodities that are exported, and there are thousands that are imported. Those lists can be made available as to what the sector-specific impacts has been. But the Government is vigilant and the Government has taken cognisance of everything. And, if I may add with your permission, even for the domestic industry, the labour-intensive industry, to generate more employment to meet the increasing domestic demand, the Government has given more credit, particularly through the MSEs – first rupees seven thousand crores through the RBI and another rupees four thousand crores were made available in the Budget, day-before-yesterday. We have also created a special dispensation for the exporters where the Exim Bank has been given an additional Rs. 5,000 crores.

SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: The Ministry of Labour had pointed, earlier this year, to job loss in the export sector, estimating to cross 1.5 million by March 2009. Given that there was general softness in the global demand, which continues. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what his estimate is regarding the peak job losses in the export sector before the demand turn around starts. I would like to press the same point, which my colleague has raised, whether the Government is proposing any special social security package for those who have lost of jobs.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, as I have already informed the hon. Members, the Government has been in touch with the industry, with the exports council, with all the stakeholders. There are different figures and projections that have been made. The Chambers of Commerce and Industry have carried out their own studies, the gems and jewellery sector has conducted a thorough study and there the job loss has been the highest in the ancillary units. There are different figures that appear everyday in the newspapers also. We have asked both, the Department of Commerce and the Department of Industry, to get the figures from the Ministry of Labour. We are in the process of compiling. As I have said, labour intensive sectors have been hurt because of the fall in exports. At the same time, there is an increase in domestic demands. As a result, there is a visible and registered increase in the last three months in the industry. More measures have been taken in the hope that the steps, which have been taken, will help. Hon. Member's second question, though does not relate directly to the question that is here. About the social security, yes, the UPA Government has taken measures to ensure a large social security net for the workers and the marginalized sections who would be

affected in such situations. That is where the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme has been, particularly, helpful for those workers who lost their jobs in the ancilliary units in the diamond sector. ...*(Interruptions)*... You have asked a question, please allow me to complete. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No interruptions please. ...*(Interruptions)*....

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: What kind of reply is this? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No interruptions. Sorry. ...*(Interruptions)*... No interjections, no interruptions. ..*(Interruptions)*.. Please, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is not correct. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, I am concluding. Hon. Members, you must have the patience. I could have just said that this question does not relate.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think that would be suffice.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Hon. Member asked a question about the social security net and I have answered. Thank you.

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर : सर, दुनिया के सभी देशों में मंदी के कारण जो लोग बेरोजगार हो रहे हैं, उन सबको गुज़ारा भत्ता मिलता है। दुनिया का एक भी देश ऐसा नहीं है, जहां गुज़ारा भत्ता नहीं है। तो मैं यह specific सवाल पूछना चाहता हूं कि आप NREGA को भेजेंगे, skilled workers को और बाकी को भी और वे अपनी सोशल सिक्योरिटी नेट करेंगे, यह सभी लोगों का अपमान होगा। मेरा मानना है कि ...

श्री सभापति : सवाल पूछ लीजिए।

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर : सवाल यह है कि जो लोग बेरोज़गार हुए हैं, उनको गुजारा भत्ता देने का क्या सरकार का विचार है और वह इस पर क्या करेगी?

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, the hon. Member can ask a separate question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Fair enough.

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: I am asking about the maintenance allowance for those who lost their jobs in the export sector.

MR. CHAIRMAN: But this does not relate to this question.

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: No, this relates to this because जो exports में job losses हुए हैं, उसका इनके पास जवाब नहीं है। वे खुद बता रहे हैं कि IT में और डायमेंड में लाखों लोग बेरोज़गार हुए हैं। सभासद ने बताया कि लोग किडनी बेच रहे हैं। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please one minute.

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर : लोग किडनी बेच रहे हैं। क्या सरकार अब यह चाहती है कि लोग किडनी बेचकर अपना गुजारा करें? ये क्यों नहीं कहते कि यह इनकी जिम्मेदारी है और सोशल सिक्योरिटी ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री सभापति : नहीं.... नहीं... देखिए प्रकाश जी ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर : इनका डिपोर्टमेंट नहीं है, लेकिन गवर्नमेंट तो एक है। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please one minute. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Sir, he is misleading the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let me draw your attention to part 'd' of the questions. It says, "How many employees have lost their jobs?" That is the only thing to be answered. If there is a figure. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: The Minister has answered something else, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not interrupt. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर : सभापति महोदय, वे उत्तर नहीं दे रहे हैं।

श्री सभापति : देखिए, इससे कोई फायदा नहीं है। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: The Government is one. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can start a debate, but this is not the occasion. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: When the people have lost their jobs, why will they not be compensated? That is the problem.

तटीय क्षेत्रों में नागरिकों के लिए पहचान-पत्र

*64. **श्री मोती लाल वोरा** :††
श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी :

क्या **गृह** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने देश के तटीय क्षेत्रों में रहने वाले सभी नागरिकों के लिए पहचान-पत्र अनिवार्य कर दिया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या मछुआरों को उनकी नौकाओं तथा समुद्र में जाने वाले अन्य प्रकार के जलयानों के लिए भी इसी तरह के पहचान-पत्र जारी किए जाने का प्रस्ताव है?

गृह मंत्री (**श्री पी. चिदम्बरम**): (क) और (ख) एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा गया है।

विवरण

(क) और (ख) मुम्बई में 26/11 को घटी घटना के बाद देश के तटवर्ती क्षेत्रों में सुरक्षा व्यवस्था को सुदृढ़ बनाने के लिए किए गए कई उपायों में सरकार ने इन क्षेत्रों के सभी "सामान्य निवासियों" को पहचान पत्र (स्मार्ट कार्ड) जारी किये जाने का प्रस्ताव किया है। इसके लिए सरकार ने समुद्री तट के 9 राज्यों अर्थात् गुजरात, महाराष्ट्र, गोवा, कर्नाटक, केरल, तमिलनाडु, आन्ध्र प्रदेश, उड़ीसा और पश्चिम बंगाल और 4 संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों अर्थात् दमण और दीव, लक्षद्वीप, अंडमान और निकोबार द्वीप समूह और पुडुचेरी में राष्ट्रीय जनसंख्या रजिस्टर (एन पी आर) का सृजन करने के लिए एक योजना का अनुमोदन किया है। यह योजना दो चरणों में कार्यान्वित की जाएगी, पहले चरण में वर्ष 2009-10 के दौरान समुद्र तट के सभी राज्यों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों के 3331 गांवों को इसमें शामिल किया

†† सभा में यह प्रश्न श्री मोती लाल वोरा द्वारा पूछा गया।